



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Oversight Committee
 Local CFAC Chairs
 NC Council of Community Programs
 County Managers
 State Facility Directors
 LME Board Chairs
 Advocacy Organizations
 MH/DD/SAS Professional and Stakeholder Organizations
 NC Association of County DSS Directors
 Commission for MH/DD/SAS
 State CFAC
 NC Assoc. of County Commissioners
 County Board Chairs
 LME Directors
 DHHS Division Directors
 Provider Organizations

FROM: Mark Benton *mb*
 Mike Moseley *mm*

SUBJECT: Implementation Update # 29: Extension of Provisionally Licensed Providers
 Delivering Reimbursable Outpatient Therapy Services

The purpose of this communication is to announce that the deadline for provisionally licensed staff delivering outpatient therapy as a reimbursable service under Medicaid and state funds **has been extended to June 30, 2008**. Our Divisions will continue to pay for services delivered by provisionally licensed staff billed under codes H0001, H0004, and H0005 until that date.

We continue to believe that in the future the new services implemented in 2006 will provide sufficient employment opportunities for provisionally licensed staff to receive the supervision and clinical experience required to achieve licensure. However, we recognize that the development of the new services has not proceeded as we expected. As a result, there have not been a sufficient number of positions in agencies providing those services for provisionally licensed individuals to gain the needed experience. We believe that problem can be rectified during this final, twelve month extension.

We have convened a workgroup composed of provider representatives and DMA and DMH/DD/SAS representatives that will meet regularly to discuss the development of additional options for provisionally licensed individuals to gain the clinical experience to meet the needs for clinical supervision and full licensure. The workgroup will also address training issues identified for new providers with a focus on clinical experience in a broad range of enhanced services. The workgroup will closely monitor the development and employment of provisionally licensed clinicians in the new services to assure the development of adequate sites for the clinical training and adequate supervision as providers move to full licensure.

Provisionally licensed psychologists, provisionally licensed social workers, marriage and family therapists in the associate-licensure status, and board-eligible professional counselors may serve in the role of Qualified Professionals, with experience in the population served, in the following services, as noted below:

- Community Support – Child/Adolescent
- Community Support – Adult
- Community Support Team
- Mobile Crisis Management (Note: provisionally licensed psychologists and provisionally licensed clinical social workers only)
- Multisystemic Therapy
- Assertive Community Treatment Team
- Child/Adolescent Day Treatment
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation
- *Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program
- *Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment
- *Substance Abuse Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment
- *Substance Abuse Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment
- Ambulatory Detoxification service
- *Social Setting Detoxification service
- **Non-hospital Medical Detoxification service
- **Medical Supervised or ADATC Detox/Crisis Stabilization Service
- Inpatient hospital

*Clinical supervision must be provided by a CCS or LCAS.

**24-hour plan, care and treatment must be under the supervision of a CCS or LCAS.

We have also determined that provisionally licensed/board eligible/associate licensed clinicians are eligible to substitute for a Licensed Professional in the provision of Intensive In-Home services. This decision should offer extensive opportunities for the provisional provider to gain significant clinical experience in this important service.

We are working through the details regarding how the outpatient therapy and assessment services will be billed during this one-year extension. Additional information will be forthcoming on that topic.

Please contact Dr. Michael Lancaster at Michael.Lancaster@ncmail.net or 919-733-7011 if you have any questions.

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